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The University of Montana

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UM TO BREAK GROUND FOR NEW BUSINESS BUILDING APRIL 28

MISSOULA --

Work on The University of Montana's long-awaited new business school building will officially get under way Thursday, April 28, during a ceremonial groundbreaking honoring the donors who helped make the project possible.

The ceremony, at 1:30 p.m. on the Clover Bowl site across Connell Avenue from Brantly Hall, will officially name the structure for retired Missoula businessman William Gallagher, a 1925 UM graduate, and his wife, Rosemary. The Gallaghers' \$1 million gift in 1990 served as an incentive for the Legislature to authorize construction of a \$15.46 million building to replace the overcrowded facility UM's business school has occupied since 1950.

The Legislature authorized construction of the new building during its 1993 session, requiring the University to raise \$2.3 million in private donations to help fund the project. The Gallagher gift is a part of that private match, and the building is a fund-raising priority of the UM Foundation's Capital Campaign, foundation Executive Director Larry Morlan said. The campaign aims to raise an additional \$5 million from private sources to provide furnishings and equipment for the building.

Construction of the new business building, a three-story building with basement, will begin this summer on the east side of the Clover Bowl playing field. The Great Falls architectural firm L'Hereux, Page & Werner has designed the building to use only the eastern part of the Clover

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Bowl, preserving nearly half of the field as open space. The building's terra cotta and brick exterior will reflect the design of nearby campus structures. Skylights in the building's central core will maximize the use of natural lighting.

A new building for the School of Business Administration has been a UM priority for many years. The school currently has 1,800 business majors using a facility that was designed to serve one-third that number. The new structure will bring the school's operations under one roof, providing offices for faculty members who are now scattered in various campus buildings and housing the Montana Entrepreneurship Center and Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

The new building features varied classroom configurations, ranging from small seminar rooms to a 250-seat classroom equipped for interactive television. The business school pioneered interactive TV courses at UM by using the technology to offer master's degree programs at Eastern Montana College campus in Billings.

Business Dean Larry Gianchetta will be master of ceremonies at the groundbreaking ceremony. Other speakers will include UM President George Dennison, Morlan, Montana Speaker of the House John Mercer, Commissioner of Higher Education Jeff Baker and the Gallaghers.

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